

Appl. No. 09/616,605  
Amdt. dated Sept. 27, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2005

**REMARKS**

In view of the following the amendments herein and the following remarks, the Applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application is obvious under the provisions of 35 USC § 103. Thus, the Applicants believe that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

If the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues in any of the claims now pending in the application, the Examiner is urged to telephone Alberta A. Vitale, Esq. at (203)469-8097 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Claim Amendments

Claims 3, 12, and 21 have been amended in response to the indication that they would be "allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim."

Claims 1-2, 6-11 and 15-20 are canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 12 and 21 were indicated as "allowable" and were amended into independent form and are now in condition for allowance. Claims 4, 5, and 13, 14 were also indicated as "allowable" and depend from amended

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independent base claims 3 and 12 respectively. Based upon their dependency from independent base claims 3 and 12, Claims 4, 5 and 13, 14 are now in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 USC § 103

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-2, 6-11 and 15-20 under the provisions of 35 USC § 103 as being obvious over the teachings in the Angles patent (United States patent 5,933,811 issued to Paul D. Angles et al. on August 3, 1999 (hereinafter Angles)) taken in view of the Landsman patent (United States patent 6,785,659 issued to Rick W. Landsman et al. on August 31, 2004 (hereinafter Landsman)). Applicants have canceled rejected claims 1-2, 6-11 and 15-20.

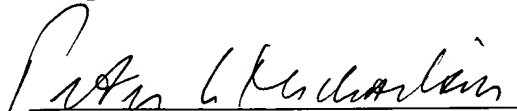
Conclusion

Thus, the Applicants believe that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

September 27, 2005

  
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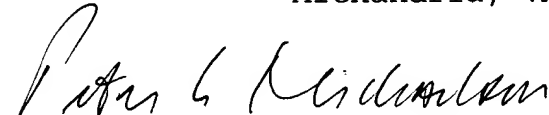
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